INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ional Application No PC1/GB2004/004715

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C02F1/50 F24D17/00 E03C1/046 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 CO2F F24D EO3C A61L A01N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, INSPEC, WPI Data, COMPENDEX, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-6,8-12 US 5 531 908 A (MATSUMOTO ET AL) X 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02) column 5, line 11 - line 64; figure 1 1-6 US 6 395 172 B1 (KOIKE HIROYUKI) X 8-12,16, 28 May 2002 (2002-05-28) 23 column 3, line 42 - column 6, line 22; 7,13-15, 17-22, claims 1-14; figures 5-7 24-29 30-34 WO 03/005925 A2 (KARADAG, MEHMET, ERGIN) X 23 January 2003 (2003-01-23) page 3, last paragraph - page 4; claim 13; figure 3 _/_-Patent family members are listed in annex. Y Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed '&' document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 02/02/2005 25 January 2005 Authorized officer Name and malling address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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